Abstract of the Disclosure

An automated-protection-switching (APS) software suite for distribution over multiple processors of a distributed processor router has an APS server module running on a first one of the multiple processors for managing communication and distributing configuration and state information and APS client modules running on second ones of the multiple processors, the APS client modules for monitoring interface state information, reporting to the APS server application, and for negotiating with other APS client modules. The software is characterized in that APS interface relocation from a primary interface to a backup interface is performed through direct communication between the APS client modules running on the processors supporting the involved interfaces.